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**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY- USA PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled OPTICAL FIBER CONNECTION COMPONENT, OPTICAL FIBER CONNECTION STRUCTURE, AND OPTICAL FIBER CONNECTION METHOD; PCT Application No. PCT/JP2003/008915 filed in the Japanese Receiving Office on July 14, 2003; the documentation for entry into the U.S. national phase of which is attached hereto;

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above;

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56;

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

**PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)**

**Priority  
Claimed**

No.: 2002-205328

Country: Japan

Date Filed: 07/15/02

Yes

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** I hereby appoint the registrants of Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP, 2040 Main Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Irvine, California 92614, Telephone (949) 760-0404, Customer No. 20,995.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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Full name of first inventor: **Kyoichi SASAKI**

Inventor's signature

Kyoichi Sasaki

Date December 20, 2004

Residence: **c/o Technical Research Laboratory, TOMOEGAWA PAPER CO., LTD.**  
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2 - 00 Full name of second inventor: **Ritsu KAWASE**

Inventor's signature Ritsu Kawase

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3 - 00 Full name of third inventor: **Masayoshi SUZUKI**

Inventor's signature Masayoshi Suzuki

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4 - 00 Full name of fourth inventor: **Tatsushi KOBAYASHI**

Inventor's signature Tatsushi Kobayashi

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